the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of Minimum Wages Act in respect of the scheduled employments falling in the State sphere lies on the State Governments. All the State Governments have got the enforcement machinery for this purpose and action against the defaulting employers, as per the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is taken by the State Governments as and when any contravention comes to their notice.

(b) and (c) The Studies conducted by Labour Bureau an organisation under the Ministry of Labour have revealed that inadequacy of personnel for the enforcement machinery and inadequacy of transport facility to them, multiplicity of assignments to enforcement personnel and risk to life are some of the reasons for lack of proper implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(d) The Central Government have been impressing upon the State Governments from time to time regarding the urgent need for strengthening the machinery for effective enforcement of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, through various National Tripartite Bodies like Indian Labour Conference and State Labour Ministers' Conference etc.

Representation from Mazdoors engaged in LPG bottling plant

487. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Labour Commissioner Central, Delhi, has received a representation dated 5-2-92 from Unorganised Mazdoors engaged in LPG Bottling Plant, IOC Limited, Suchhi Pind Jalandhar (Punjab) regarding non-implementation of Vasudevan Committee's recommendations on LPG safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken to investigate the same; and

(d) what remedial steps have been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) It is alleged the Contract Workers are not being provided the statutory benefits as provided under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970;

(ii) Adequate safety measures as recommended by Vasudevan Committee are not implemented in the LPG Plants;

(iii) Non implementation of Employees' State Insurance Act, Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous provisions Act, 1952 and Minimum Wages Act.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increasing of ceiling of income of workers forgoing to Labour Courts

488. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Labour Courts entertain cases of workers drawing emoluments amounting to Rs. 1600/- per month;

(b) whether Government are aware that due to various reasons like inflation and erosion of rupee value, the salaries of even the lowest paid worker exceeds Rs. 1600/- in many cases;

(c) whether in view of the above Government propose to increase the ceiling of income of workers at 4 times the present limit of Rs. 1600/- so that workers can approach labour courts; and

(d) if the reply to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (d) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 under which Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts

adjudicate various matters applies to all 'workmen' irrespective of the wage drawn by them. The definition of the word 'workmen' under the Atc, however, excludes those who are employed in a supervisory capacity asd draw wages in excess of Rs. 1600/- per month and those who by the nature of the duties attached to the office or by the reason of the powers vested in them function mainly of a managerial nature.

Children working in carpet Beedi and Bangle Industry

489. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what steps Government are taking to make available the information regarding children below 14 years of age working in carpet, beedi, crackers and bangles industries in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): The information regarding industry wise employment of children below 14 years of age is not being maintained by the Census of India. Under a plan scheme Ministry of Labour assists NGOs to take up actnon oriented programmes for the welfare of child labour which include raising of social awareness. A child labour cell has also been constituted in the National Labour Institute, New Delhi which *inter-alia* helps in disseminating information relating to Child Labour.

Number of medical and technical graduates in the country

490. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased state:

(a) the number of Science, Mediia Technical and other graduates at the er of Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Five Ye Plans respectively/separately;

(b) what are the details of the percer tage increase in the above categories dur ing the last five years year-wise; and

(c) what steps are being taken for their placements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Estimates of stocks of graduates of different categories made recenly by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research are given for the year 1981 1985 and 1990 in the enclosed statement. (*See* below) The statement also gives the average annual (compound) rates of growth of the stocks for the period 1985-90.

(c) The Eighth Five Year Plan, which is being finalised, has employment as a central obective and envisages a geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural development, development of rural non-farm sector, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing, expansion of housing, health services and education and strengthening of infrastructure like energy, transport, communication and irrigation. These are likely to generate substantial employment opportunities for the educated, including scinece, technical, medical and other graduates.